

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A publication delivery system comprising:

a printing mechanism for printing copies of a publication before copies are requested by potential customers so that after a copy of the printed publication is requested by a customer, the customer can receive the copy of the printed publication without having to wait for the printing mechanism to print the copy of the publication; and

a response system that monitors activity level around a physical location of the publication delivery system in order to detect proximity of potential customers, wherein timing and number of copies of the publication printed by the printing mechanism are based on the activity level detected by the response system, wherein an increased detected activity level, results in an increased number of copies of the publication being printed.

2. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 wherein the publication delivery system is a kiosk and the publication is a newspaper.

3. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 wherein the response system includes a microphone that is used to monitor noise level.

4. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 wherein the response system includes an optical sensor to detect movement near the publication delivery system.

5. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 wherein the response system includes a motion detector used to detect movement near the publication delivery system.

6. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 additionally comprising:

network access, the print delivery system using the network access to update content of the publication.

7. (Previously Presented) A publication delivery system as in claim 1 additionally comprising:

a storage area that stores printed copies of the publication; and,

a time stamp reader for reading a time stamp on a most recently printed copy of the publication stored in the storage area, wherein the print delivery

system uses the time stamp to determine freshness of the most recently printed copy of the publication stored in the storage area.

8. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 7 wherein the time stamp is a bar code and the time stamp reader is a bar code reader.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for distributing a publication by an automated kiosk, comprising the following:

(a) in response to a customer ordering a publication, performing the following by the kiosk:

(a.1) checking a time stamp on a most recently printed publication stored in a storage area, the storage area being used to store already printed copies of the publication so that after the publication is ordered by the customer, the customer can receive a printed copy of the publication without having to wait for a printing mechanism to print the copy of the publication,

(a.2) determining whether a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available,

(a.3) when in (a.2) it is determined that a fresher version of the printed publication is not electronically available, delivering to the customer the most recently printed publication stored in the storage area, and

(a.4) when in (a.2) it is determined that a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available and the customer indicates a

willingness to wait for printing, obtaining the fresher version of the printed publication, and printing out the fresher version of the publication for delivery to the customer.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 9 wherein (a.2) comprises the following:

contacting, by the kiosk, an electronic publisher of the publication, wherein the electronic publisher performs the following:

comparing a checksum for a most recently generated version of the publication with a checksum for the most recently printed publication stored in the storage area, and

indicating to the kiosk the results of the comparison.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 9 wherein the time stamp is a bar code and (a.1) is performed with use of a bar code reader.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for distributing a publication by an automated publication delivery system, comprising the following:

(a) monitoring activity around a physical location of the automated publication delivery system in order to detect proximity of potential customers; and,

(b) in response to detection of an increased activity level around the physical location of the automated publication delivery system, printing additional copies of the publication for distribution so that copies are already printed before being ordered by customers so that after a copy of the printed publication is ordered by a customer, the customer can receive the copy of the printed publication without having to wait for the printing mechanism to print the copy of the publication.

13. (Original) A method as in claim 12 wherein the automated publication delivery system is a kiosk and the publication is a newspaper.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12 wherein in (a) monitoring is performed using a microphone to monitor noise level.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12 wherein in (a) monitoring is performed using an optical sensor to detect movement near the automated publication delivery system.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12 wherein in (a) monitoring is performed using a motion detector to detect movement near the automated publication delivery system.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12, additionally comprising the following:

(c) in response to a customer requesting the publication, performing the following:

(c.1) checking a time stamp on a most recently printed publication stored in a storage area,

(c.2) determining whether a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available,

(c.3) when in (c.2) it is determined that a fresher version of the printed publication is not electronically available, delivering to the customer the most recently printed publication stored in the storage area, and

(c.4) when in (c.2) it is determined that a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available, obtaining the fresher version of the printed publication, and printing out the fresher version of the publication for delivery to the customer.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12 wherein (c.2) comprises the following:

contacting, by the automated publication delivery system, an electronic publisher of the publication, wherein the electronic publisher performs the following substeps:

comparing a checksum for a most recently generated version of the publication with a checksum for the most recently printed publication stored in the storage area, and

indicating to the automated publication delivery system the results of the comparison.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 17 wherein the time stamp is a bar code and (c.1) is performed with use of a bar code reader.

20. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 12 additionally comprising the following:

(c) using network access by the automated print delivery system to update content of the publication.

21. (Previously Presented) A publication delivery system comprising:
a printing mechanism for printing a publication;

a response system that monitors activity around a physical location of the publication delivery system, wherein timing and number of printed publications printed by the printing mechanism are based on the activity detected by the response system;

a storage area that stores printed publications, the storage area being used to store already printed copies of the printed publication so that after a

printed copy of the printed publication is requested by a customer, the customer can receive an already printed copy of the printed publication without having to wait for the printing mechanism to print the already printed copy of the publication; and,

a time stamp reader for reading a time stamp on a most recently printed publication stored in the storage area, wherein the print delivery system uses the time stamp to determine freshness of the most recently printed publication stored in the storage area;

wherein in response to the customer requesting the publication, the time stamp reader checks a time stamp on a most recently printed publication stored in a storage area to determine whether a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available and when a fresher version of the printed publication is electronically available, obtains the fresher version of the printed publication, and prints the fresher version out on the printing mechanism for delivery to the customer.

22. (Original) A publication delivery system as in claim 21 wherein the customer is given an option to wait for printing out of the fresher version of the publication or to immediately receive an already printed copy of the publication.